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09/529,644	04/17/2000	JOERG SCHWENK	2345/122	8596

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EXAMINER

DEMICCO, MATTHEW R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2611

DATE MAILED: 01/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/529,644

Applicant(s)

SCHWENK ET AL.

Examiner

Matthew R Demicco

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is responsive to an amendment filed 10/29/03. Claims 15-33 are pending. Claim 14 has been cancelled. Claims 15-17 and 30-33 are amended. The Examiner acknowledges the receipt of a new Abstract in the amendment.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed with respect to Claim 24 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding Claim 24, Applicant argues that the Kahn patent does not teach communicating with a first mobile data carrier via an interface, a memory for use as a list so as to buffer data, nor at least a first portion of the buffered data being routed immediately or at a later time to the mobile carrier. With respect to the communication with a first mobile data carrier via an interface, Kahn discloses the use of a "replaceable secured authorization card" (Col. 5, Lines 7-11). This card reads on the claimed mobile data carrier. It is inherent that in order to communicate with this mobile carrier, an interface with the set top box must be provided. Kahn also discloses storing received authorization information, receiving subsequent conditional information, processing the conditional information, then updating the authorization map based on the received data (Col. 7, Line 64 – Col 8, Line 29). The initial storage of the received authorization data in a memory before the data is actually tested and put into effect reads on the claimed memory for use as a list so as to buffer data transmitted from a transmitter to a device. Furthermore, it is well known in the art that any such computer-based digital communication device must inherently buffer received data such that a processor may operate on

Art Unit: 2611

the data once it has been received in its entirety. Lastly, to address Applicant's argument with respect to routing the buffered data immediately or at a later time, Kahn discloses effecting the changes to the conditional access map once conditional data is received and a test is performed. This takes place after the authorization data is received as stated above. This clearly demonstrates that the system of Kahn routes the buffered data to the mobile carrier at a later time, after the conditional test takes place. Furthermore, it is inherent that a first portion of the data is part of this routed data.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 33 recites the limitation "second data portion" in Line 10. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 15-19, 21-22, 24-31 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,649.

Regarding Claim 15, Kahn discloses a method for routing data in a pay television terminal (See Figure 1, Direct Broadcast Satellite system), the data including receiving rights (Col. 6, Lines 7-14) for a mobile data carrier (Col. 5, Line 8, "replaceable secured authorization card"). Kahn further discloses the transmission of the data from a transmitter (See Figure 1) via a transmission medium to the pay-TV terminal (Col. 3, Lines 61-65). The data is buffered at the terminal (Cols. 4-5, Lines 66-10 and Cols. 7-8, Lines 64-29) as stated above in the Response to Arguments. Communication between the mobile data carrier and the terminal is established and the receiving data is routed and stored in the mobile data carrier (Col. 6, Lines 30-39). In such a system, it is inherent that receiving rights for all terminals and mobile data carriers is broadcast over the network. Consequently, each terminal receives rights for other terminals and selectively stores only information intended for it. Kahn discloses that each secure authorization card may be individually addressed based on a stored identification number in memory (Col. 6, Lines 30-39). The data destined for other terminals is still received prior to identification determination of the received data and must be buffered as stated above. This data reads on the claimed data including at least second receiving rights for a second mobile data carrier.

Regarding Claim 16, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 15 wherein the first mobile data carrier includes a chip-card (Col. 5, Line 8, "replaceable secured authorization card").

Regarding Claim 17, Kahn discloses a method for routing data in a pay television terminal (See Figure 1, Direct Broadcast Satellite system), the data including receiving

Art Unit: 2611

rights (Col. 6, Lines 7-14) for a mobile data carrier (Col. 5, Line 8, "replaceable secured authorization card"). Kahn further discloses the transmission of the data from a transmitter (See Figure 1) via a transmission medium to the pay-TV terminal (Col. 3, Lines 61-65). The data is buffered at the terminal (Cols. 4-5, Lines 66-10 and Cols. 7-8, Lines 64-29) as stated above in the Response to Arguments. Communication between the mobile data carrier and the terminal is established and the receiving data is routed and stored in the mobile data carrier (Col. 6, Lines 30-39). Kahn further discloses that each secure authorization card may be individually addressed based on a stored identification number in memory (Col. 6, Lines 30-39). This reads on the claimed storing in a list a respective chip card number for at least one of the chipcard so as to enable the pay TV terminal to cooperate with at least one chipcard. This identification number for addressing individual cards further reads on the claimed chipcard-specific filter information.

Regarding Claim 18, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 17. Further, it is inherent that the length or composition of a list must be either variable or fixed.

Regarding Claim 19, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 17 wherein data is stored based on conditional rules received by the set top box from the service provider as stated above. This process requires no user intervention. This reads on the claimed automatic storing being performed according to fixed rules using the pay TV terminal.

Regarding Claim 21, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 17 chipcard numbers and consequently the respective chipcard-specific filter information is transmitted to the pay TV terminal via the transmission medium (Col. 6, Lines 30-39).

Regarding Claim 22, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 15 further comprising transmitting filter information (Col. 6, Lines 18-30) to the pay TV terminal using the mobile data carrier upon establishing communication. It is further inherent that in such a system where authorization information is stored on a removable card that the information must be read by the terminal in order for channel selection and tuning.

Regarding Claim 24, Kahn discloses a device for decoding pay-TV programs comprising control and evaluation electronics (See Figure 3, "microprocessor"), a communication apparatus for communicating with a first mobile data carrier via an interface (Col. 5, Line 8, "replaceable secured authorization card"), a memory for use as a list to buffer data transmitted from a transmitter to the device (Col. 6, Lines 18-30) via a transmission medium (See Figure 1) using the control and evaluation electronics, at least a first portion of the buffered data being routed immediately to the first mobile data carrier (Col. 6, Lines 30-39).

Regarding Claim 25, Kahn discloses a device as stated above in Claim 24 further comprising a pay-TV terminal (See Figure 1, Direct Broadcast Satellite system and Figure 2, Terminal 38).

Regarding Claim 26, Kahn discloses a device as stated above in Claim 24 wherein the first mobile data carrier includes a chip-card (Col. 5, Line 8, "replaceable secured authorization card").

Art Unit: 2611

Regarding Claim 27, Kahn discloses a device as stated above in Claim 24 wherein the data includes receiving rights (Col. 6, Lines 7-30).

Regarding Claims 28 and 29, Kahn discloses a device as stated above in Claim 24 wherein the memory is a non-volatile EEPROM (Col. 5, Line 4).

Regarding Claim 30, Kahn discloses a device for decoding pay TV programs as stated above. Further, the system of Kahn utilizes a mobile data carrier as stated above. It is inherent that the communication device for communicating with the mobile data carrier would be able to communicate with any suitably operable chip card that was inserted. This reads on the claimed communication device being for communicating with a first mobile data carrier and with a second mobile data carrier. Further, as stated above in Claim 15, the communication device is operable to receive a broadcast of data and determine which data is intended for the mobile data carrier that is in use. Based on the chip card that is in use, data will either be stored or discarded. This reads on the claimed control module for performing an allocation respectively between the first portion and second portion of the buffered data (used and unused data) and the first and second mobile data carriers

Regarding Claim 31, Kahn discloses a device for decoding pay TV programs as stated above. Kahn further discloses that the communication device is for communicating with a first and second mobile data carrier as stated above in Claim 30. The system must communicate with the inserted mobile data carrier in order to store updated information using individual addressing as stated above. This reads on the claimed evaluation electronics including an evaluation module for determining which mobile data carrier is

in communication with the terminal. Based on the identification of the inserted card, the received and buffered data is routed accordingly.

Regarding Claim 33, Kahn discloses a device for decoding pay TV programs as stated above. In such a system, it is inherent that authorization for multiple channels of programming be received. This reads on the claimed first and second data portions respectively include first and second receiving rights.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 20, 23 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahn.

Regarding Claim 20, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 17. What is not disclosed, however, is that the storing is performed manually. Official Notice is hereby taken that it is well known in the art of data storage that a user may have to insert a portable data storage device into a receptacle and confirm a write operation. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Kahn with the user intervention of the well-known prior art in order to allow a user to update a personal access card that is not left unattended in a receiver.

Regarding Claim 23, Kahn discloses a method as stated above in Claim 17. What is not disclosed, however, is deleting the receiving rights using a pre-selected prioritization if a size of the list is exceeded. Official Notice is hereby taken that it is well known in the art to use a priority-based deletion scheme to delete older or less important data from a memory of finite size when the memory becomes full. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Kahn with the deletion of the well-known prior art in order to prevent newer or more important information from being lost when a memory device is full.

Regarding Claim 32, Kahn discloses a device as stated above. . What is not disclosed, however, is a priority circuit for determining which of the first portion of the buffered data and a second portion of the data are deleted upon exceeding of a space in the memory. Official Notice is hereby taken that it is well known in the art to use a priority-based deletion scheme to delete older or less important data from a memory of finite size when the memory becomes full. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Kahn with the deletion of the well-known prior art in order to prevent newer or more important information from being lost when a memory device is full.

Art Unit: 2611

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew R Demicco whose telephone number is (703) 305-8155. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on (703) 305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-5359.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



mrd

January 15, 2004



VICTOR R. KOSTAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER